

United States Patent and Trademark Office



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO), 1	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/934,926	09/934,926 08/21/2001		David Grawrock	SYMA-01045US0MCF/GGG 8871		
23910	7590	03/24/2005	•	EXAMINER		
FLIESLE		R, LLP ERO CENTER	CALLAHAN, PAUL E			
SUITE 40		EKO CENTEK	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
SAN FRA	NCISCO,	CA 94111	2137			
				DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

1/								
	Application N	о.	Applicant(s)	-				
Office Action Commons	09/934,926		GRAWROCK ET AL.					
Office Action Summary	Examiner		Art Unit					
	Paul Callahar		2137					
The MAILING DATE of this commun Period for Reply	ication appears on the co	rer sheet with the co	orrespondence ad	dress				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNI - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this common lift the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (3). - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statement of the period for reply within the set or extended period for reply Any reply received by the Office later than three months a earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	CATION. of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, he unication. or and the statutory within the statutory intutory period will apply and will expension, but the application will, by statute, cause the application.	owever, may a reply be time minimum of thirty (30) days ire SIX (6) MONTHS from t in to become ABANDONED	ely filed s will be considered timel the mailing date of this co O (35 U.S.C. § 133).	y. ommunication.				
Status								
1) Responsive to communication(s) file	d on <u>21 August 2001</u> .			-				
2a) This action is FINAL.	2b)⊠ This action is non-f	inal.						
•	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Disposition of Claims		~						
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-49</u> is/are pending in the a 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/ar 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) □ Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-49</u> are subject to restriction	re withdrawn from consid							
Application Papers								
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the								
,	,—							
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).							
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.								
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119								
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority 2. Certified copies of the priority 3. Copies of the certified copies application from the Internatio * See the attached detailed Office actio	documents have been re documents have been re of the priority documents nal Bureau (PCT Rule 17	ceived. ceived in Application have been receivee 7.2(a)).	on No d in this National	Stage				
Attachment(s)								
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	. 4)[Interview Summary (
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (P 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or Paper No(s)/Mail Date 	PTO/SB/08) 5) L	Paper No(s)/Mail Da Notice of Informal Pa Other:		D-152)				
S. Patent and Trademark Office								

PTOL-326 (Rev. 1-04)

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-49 are pending in this application.

Election/Restrictions

- 2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - Claims 1-3 and 33-49, drawn to a system for protecting access constrained information comprising a data providing means for providing data of an identified file, an interceptable access mechanism for processing file access requests from users or application programs, an access control mechanism with a permissions rule database and permissions control means for applying permissions rules, classified in class 705, subclass 51.
 - II. Claims 4 and 5, drawn to a software program product embodied in a memory medium for instructing a computing device to carry out a file characterizing process for use in implementing a file access request including a determination whether the file is covered by OTF encryption processing and bubble-protection processing, classified in class 713, subclass 193.

Application/Control Number: 09/934,926

Art Unit: 2137

- III. Claims 6-15, and 19, drawn to a method for processing file-opening requests by determining if the file is resident on remote or easily removable media, and if so determining if the file is associated with access control rules, classified in class 707, subclass 1.
- IV. Claims 16-18 and 20-25, drawn to a method for managing access constrained files and their associated access rules by keeping both stored locally in the same removable memory medium or remote machine, classified in class 707, subclass 1.
- V. Claims 26-32, drawn to a client machine for use in a network for storing access constrained files with access control rules defined by data stored at the primary place of residence of the files comprising; a file importing means, a constraining means for constraining access to the files based on locally resident rules or imported copies of non locally stored rules. classified in class 705, subclass 51.
- 3. Inventions I, II, III, IV and V are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case: invention I has a separate utility as a system for protecting access-controlled data files, where the system comprises a means for providing data associated with a requested file, an interceptable

Application/Control Number: 09/934,926

Art Unit: 2137

access means for processing file requests, an access control means containing a permissions database and a permissions control means for applying the access permission rules, with a separate utility, for example, as a stand-alone gateway server in a network; invention II has separate utility such as a software application gateway directing a generic computer operating system to apply a set of rules or filter regulating file access, with a separate utility, for example, as a gateway server operating system application; invention III has a separate utility as a method step in processing file access requests by a determination of whether the file is resident on remote or removable media and whether a set of access rules is based upon that determination, with a separate utility, for example, as a method useful in a gateway server access evaluation process for determining if a file in memory has an access rule associated with it; invention IV has a separate utility as a method of operating a file access gateway wherein file access is regulated by a set of rules kept in close association with the file(s) useful, for example, as a method step in a gateway server process evaluating file access requests where the process evaluates the request based upon locally stored rules; and invention V which has a separate utility as a client machine used in a network as a storage location for access-controlled files and the associated access control rules defined by data stored in close association with the files useful, for example, as a workstation in a network. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Application/Control Number: 09/934,926 Page 5

Art Unit: 2137

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell, can be reached on (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

3/3/05

Paul Cullaher

ANDREW CALDWELL SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

andrew adduct